



and wherein either the holes are not all identical in shape and size, the protrusions are not all identical in shape and size, or both.

10. A method of producing a brush, comprising:

forming a bristle carrier including at least one hole having a protrusion projecting from a bottom of the hole;

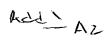
heating the protrusion and at least a portion of the wall of the hole; and inserting a sheaf of bristles into the hole, wherein

when heated, material from the protrusion flows about the

bristles, retaining them in the hole, and

the sheaf of bristles is not perpendicular to a surface of the bristle carrier containing an opening of the hole.

- The method of claim 11, further comprising fusing an end of the sheaf to form a fuse-ball having a greater diameter than a diameter of the sheaf.
 - 12. The method of claim 12, wherein the fusing is performed thermally or chemically.
- The method of claim 13, wherein the fusing is performed thermally, and wherein the sheaf is inserted in the hole while the fuse-ball is still warm.
 - 14. The method of claim 12, further comprising pressing a portion of the wall of the hole around the fuse.
 - 15. The method of claim 11, wherein the step of forming comprises injection molding or compression molding.



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